

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 03276 110616Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 /035 W
-----110652Z 003951 /23-12
R 110530Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9160

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 3276

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, TH
SUBJECT: RTG ADVISES AAFLI AND FES TO SUSPEND ALL WORKER EDUCATIONAL
PROGRAMS

1. AAFLI REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE HAD BEEN PHONED
BY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL PHON
UDOMPHONG REQUESTING "UNOFFICIALLY AND AS A FRIEND" THAT AAFLI
SUSPEND ALL LABOR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES (E.G., SEMINARS AND
DISCUSSION GROUPS) FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, "UNTIL THE
LABOR SITUATION HAS NORMALIZED." AAFLI REP SAID THAT PHON TOLD
HIM THAT HE (PHON) WOULD ALSO BE MAKING THE SAME "REQUEST" TO
THE FRG EQUIVALENT OF AAFLI, THE DRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG (FES),
AND THE ILO.

2. FES REP IN BANGKOK INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN
CONTACTED BY ANYONE FROM DOL BUT HAS INDEED RECEIVED THE SAME
MESSAGE THROUGH HIS COUNTERPARTS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL
AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HE ADDED THAT SUCH RESTRAINTS WOULD
CAUSE FES TO CURTAIL SEVERELY ITS PROGRAMS IN THAILAND, SINCE
FES ACTIVITIES CONSIST PRIMARILY IN ORGANIZING LABOR EDUCATION
SEMINARS. ILO REGIONAL ADVISOR FOR LABOR RELATIONS SAID
THE ILO HAD NOT BEEN APPROACHED BY ANYONE AT ALL CONCERN-
ING THIS PROBLEM, AND HE WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT AAFLI
AND FES HAD RECEIVED WHAT ARE IN EFFECT ORDERS TO CEASE
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AND DESIST IN THIS AREA. HOWEVER, ILO ADVISOR ADMITTED
THAT THE ILO HAD NO REPEAT NO WORKER EDUCATIONAL ACTIVI-
TIES SCHEDULED FOR THIS YEAR.

3. COMMENT: DDG PHON IS THE MOST PRO-LABOR OF THE DOL TOP
BRASS. ALTHOUGH HIS TELEPHONE CALL TO AAFLI WAS MADE AS A
"FRIENDLY REQUEST," AAFLI REP IS SURE THAT THIS REQUEST

IS AN ORDER. COMING AS IT DOES IN THE WAKE OF THE CANCEL-
LATION OF SEVERAL LABOR SEMINARS WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED
OVER THE LAST THREE WEEKS, IT CAN ONLY SERVE AS FURTHER PROOF
THAT THE RTG IS DETERMINED, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING,
TO KEEP LABOR ACTIVITIES TO THE BAREST MINIMUM SHORT OF
DISSOLVING ALL UNIONS AND FORBIDDING ANY WORKER ASSOCIATION
WHATSOEVER.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, SEMINARS, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO03276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770049-0360
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770251/aaaabthz.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8600f6c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3347959
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RTG ADVISES AAFLI AND FES TO SUSPEND ALL WORKER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
TAGS: ELAB, TH, AAFLI, FES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8600f6c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009